IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1 and 5-8 have been amended and claim 9 has been added as follows:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): An electrical connector comprising:

a first connector housing and a second connector housing mating with the first connector housing,

wherein a tapered surface is provided in each of the first and second connector housings, the tapered surfaces inclined in the mating direction of the first and second connector housings, the tapered surfaces engaging with each other on mating of the first and second ~~convector~~ connector housings.

Claim 2 (original): The electrical connector according to Claim 1 is characterized in that each tapered surface is unitarily formed with each of the connector housings.

Claim 3 (original): An electrical connector comprising:

a first connector housing, and

a second connector housing mating with the first connector housing,

wherein a tapered surface is provided in one of the first and second connector housings, the tapered surface inclined in the mating direction of the first and second connector housings, the

tapered surfaces engaged with a surface of the other connector housing on mating of the first and second connector housings.

Claim 4 (original): The electrical connector according to Claim 3 is characterized in that the tapered surface is unitarily formed with the one of connector housings.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The electrical connector according to Claim 3 [[or 4]] is characterized in that the other connector housing has an inner housing formed with a ~~looseness prohibiting protrusion~~ tapered surface, wherein the tapered surface of the ~~one connector housing abuts against the looseness prohibiting protrusion on mating the first and second connector housings~~ inner housing is engaged in a surface-contact state with the tapered surface of the one connector housing.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The electrical connector according to Claim [[5]] 3 is characterized in that the ~~looseness prohibiting protrusion has a tapered surface engaged with the tapered surface of the one connector housing to define a surface-contact state~~ other connector housing has an inner housing formed with a looseness prohibiting protrusion, wherein the tapered surface of the one connector housing abuts against the looseness prohibiting protrusion on mating the first and second connector housings.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The electrical connector [[of]] according to Claim [[5 or]] 6 is characterized in that the ~~inner housing is movable in the connector mating direction and is urged toward the one connector housing by a resilient member~~ looseness prohibiting protrusion has a tapered surface engaged with the tapered surface of the one connector housing to define a surface-contact state.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The electrical connector according to Claim [[7]] 5 is characterized in that the ~~resilient member is a waterproof packing attached in the other connector housing, the waterproof packing closely sandwiched between an outer surface of a peripheral wall of the inner housing and an inner surface of a peripheral wall of the one connector housing~~ inner housing is movable in the connector mating direction and is urged toward the one connector housing by a resilient member.

Claim 9 (new): The electrical connector according to Claim 8 is characterized in that the resilient member is a waterproof packing attached in the other connector housing, the waterproof packing closely sandwiched between an outer surface of a peripheral wall of the inner housing and an inner surface of a peripheral wall of the one connector housing on complete engagement of the first and second connector housings.